

MONTANA WOLF PROGRAM - WEEKLY REPORT

TO: Interested Parties
FROM: Ken McDonald, Wildlife Bureau Chief
SUBJECT: Wolf Program Activities and Related Information
WEEK OF: Feb 25 - March 2, 2012

Contributors to the Montana Wolf Weekly are Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks (FWP), Universities, USDA Wildlife Services (WS), the National Park Service (NPS; Glacier NP; Yellowstone National Park will be reported in the Wyoming Wolf Weekly), US Forest Service, Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes, and the Blackfeet Nation.

PROGRAM UPDATES:

All Montana wolf management units closed to hunting Feb 15. A total of 166 wolves were legally harvested during the 2011-2012 take period. Final wolf harvest statistics will be available soon.

Weekly reports for 2012 will be shown in an additive, running tally fashion. New incidents will be pasted to the bottom of the tables each week.

Montana Annual Wolf Report can be found on the FWP website:

<http://fwp.mt.gov/fishAndWildlife/management/wolf/>

To learn more about Montana's wolf population, the Montana program and to help FWP monitor wolves by reporting wolf sign, visit FWP online. <http://fwp.mt.gov/fishAndWildlife/management/wolf/>

To anonymously report a dead or injured wolf or suspected illegal activity, call: 1-800-TIP-MONT or 1-800-847-6668.

To request an investigation of injured or dead livestock, call USDA Wildlife Services directly in western Montana / Helena area at 406-458-0106 or in eastern Montana at the statewide office at 406-657-6464. Or, call your nearest FWP representative to have your call referred to Wildlife Services.

If you have a confirmed or probable livestock death loss due to wolves, USDA Wildlife Services will supply you with a copy of the Loss Reimbursement Application form. For more information, see <http://liv.mt.gov/default.mcp> Or, contact the Livestock Loss Reduction and Mitigation Program Coordinator, George Edwards at the Montana Department of Livestock at 406-444-5609.

WOLF-LIVESTOCK CONFLICTS

| Date | General Area (County) | Pack Name | Livestock Type and # (injured livestock (i), probable kills (p) or confirmed kills (c)) | | | | | Land Type | Authorized Control Action |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------|---|-------|----------------|-------|-----|--------------|------------------------------------|
| | | | Cattle | Sheep | Goat/ Llama | Horse | Dog | | |
| 1/1/12 | North of Niarada (Flathead) | Irvine | 1c | | | | | Tribal | Initial response* |
| 1/3/12 | Grant (Beaverhead) | Unknown | | 1c | | | | Private | Collar 1/Initial response |
| 1/24/12 | W of Arlee (Sanders) | Sleeping Woman (CSKT) | 1c 2p | | | | | | Initial response* |
| 2/8/12 | Potomac (Missoula) | Union Peak suspected | | | | | 1 | Private | None |
| 2/20/12 | W of Dell (Beaverhead) | Four Eyes | | 4c 4p | | | | Private | Collar 1/Lethal removal up to 4 |
| 2/29/12 | South of Ulm (Cascade) | | 2c | | | | | | Collar 1/Initial response |
| 2012 Running Total* | | | 4c 2p | 5c 4p | 0 | 0 | 1 | | |

*Initial response allows for the removal of any wolves returning to the depredation site.

WOLF CAPTURE, COLLARING, REMOVAL ACTIVITIES

| Date* | General Area (County) | Pack Name | Capture/Collaring | | | Lethal Removal (# wolves) | | Control Action -ongoing/ completed | Other Mortalities (by cause) |
|---------------------|---|-----------------|----------------------------|----|----------------------------|--|-----------|--|------------------------------|
| | | | FWP (monitoring/ research) | WS | Other (tribal/ incidental) | WS | Landowner | | |
| 1/12/12 | Mt Haggin (Deer Lodge) | Pintler | | | | 2 | | Ongoing (Kill 3/Collar 1 from 12/2/11 cattle depredation incident) | |
| 1/20/12 | NW Niarada (Flathead) | Irvine | | | | 1 | | Ongoing | |
| 1/25/12 | (Gallatin) | Bear Trap | 2 | | | | | | |
| 1/24/12 | Bitterroot Valley (Missoula) | One Horse Creek | | | | | | | 1 (killed by a lion) |
| 2/1/12 | Jefferson Crk - E of Helmville (Powell) | | | 1 | | | | | |
| 2/6/12 | (Sanders) | Garden Crk | | | 2 (CSKT/WS) | 2 (incidental mortalities from CSKT/WS capture effort) | | | |
| 2/20/12 | N of Perma (Sanders) | Cotton-wood | | | 1 (CSKT) | | | | |
| 1/24/12 | (Flathead) | Dutch | | | | | | | 1 (natural cause) |
| 2/15/12 | NW Niarada (Flathead) | Irvine | | | | 1 | | Completed | |
| | | | | | | | | | |
| 2012 Running Total* | | | 2 | 1 | 3 | 6 | | | 2 + 45 legal sport harvest |

*There is often a lag time between activities and reporting due to ongoing investigations. Running tallies are estimates based on known data at the time of 'wolf weekly' publication and may not match final annual report numbers.